



News Advisory

WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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Governor Doyle to visit Wisconsin National Guard troops at Fort McCoy Thursday

Gov. Jim Doyle will travel to Fort McCoy aboard a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter Thursday [June 12] to visit Wisconsin National Guard troops during their annual training. The governor is commander-in-chief of the Wisconsin National Guard.

While at Fort McCoy, Gov. Doyle will meet with soldiers, eat a military “lunch” (Meals Ready-to-Eat, or MREs) in the field with the troops, and observe a field artillery fire mission conducted by the 32nd Infantry Brigade’s 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery. He will also observe a demonstration of close air support from F-16 fighters from the Air Guard’s 115th Fighter Wing.

Following his visit to the field, Gov. Doyle will speak to senior National Guard leaders and participate in a brief award ceremony at the Guard’s Wisconsin Military Academy at Fort McCoy. The awards honor individual soldiers and units for their accomplishments over the past year.

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Note: News media wishing to cover Gov. Doyle’s visit must call in advance to ensure access to the military installation and availability of transportation to the field training site. News organizations should call Tim Donovan at 608-242-3050.

Reporters planning to cover this event should plan to report to a news media bus at the Fort McCoy main gate no later than 10 a.m. Thursday. The bus will leave for the field training site promptly at 10:15.

We expect Gov. Doyle and Maj. Gen. Al Wilkening to arrive at the field training site via UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter at about 11 a.m. In addition to covering Gov. Doyle’s visit to the artillery fire base, there will be an opportunity for questions. Due to space restrictions at the observation point, reporters will not have access to the close air support demonstration.

Following the field artillery fire mission, the bus will return to the main gate (for reporters who do not wish to cover the award ceremony) at about 1:30. Reporters who wish to cover the 40-minute award ceremony at 2 p.m. will be taken to the Military Academy by bus, then returned to the main gate by about 2:45.